Amendments to the Claims:

This listing will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (Cancelled)

2.   (Cancelled)

3.   (Cancelled)

4.   (Cancelled)

5.   (Cancelled)

6.   (Cancelled)

7.   (Cancelled)

8.   (Cancelled)

9.   (Cancelled)

10.   (Cancelled)

11.   (Withdrawn)

12.   (Withdrawn)

13.   (Currently Amended) A method for determining the metastatic potential of a cancer in an afflicted patient comprising:

    1)   a)   obtaining a sample of tumor tissue from the patient;

    2)   b)   obtaining a sample of normal tissue from the patient; and

    3)   c)   determining the level of activated STAT-3 protein in the sample of tumor tissue and in the sample of normal tissue from the patient,

wherein an increased level of the activated STAT-3 protein in the tumor tissue as compared to the ~~control~~ normal tissue indicates an increased metastatic potential of said tumor.

14.   (Cancelled)

15.   (Currently Amended) A method according to claim ~~11, 12 or~~ 13 wherein determining the level of activated STAT-3 protein comprises determining the relative level of phosphorylated STAT-3 protein.

16.   (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 15 wherein the level of phosphorylated STAT-3 protein is determined by contacting the sample with an antibody which binds said phosphorylated STAT-3 protein.

17.   (Cancelled)

18.   (Cancelled)

19.   (Cancelled)

20.   (Cancelled)

21.   (Cancelled)

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Cancelled)

29. (Cancelled)